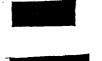
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APPROVED FOR RELEASE -HISTORICAL COLLECTION DIVISION-HR70-14 DATE: 05-17-2012



26 September 1961

the British

HR70-14

1.3(a)(4)

C-48

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Conversation with Mr. Helms Re

Report on Large-Scale

Soviet Military Preparations

1.3(a)(4)

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1. When Mr. Osborn and I were discussing the above report with Mr. Helms, upon its receipt yesterday afternoon, I told Mr. Helms we should expect renewed consumer questions about the possibility of deception. I pointed out that the had not only been accepted by most of our consumers, but that the material was: a) extremely costly in terms of Soviet security; and b) apparently inconsistent with any discernible Soviet policy purposes. However, I said we must face up to the fact that in a key position to give us information vitally affecting our own reaction to recent Soviet moves. For example, assure us that all the preparations we would be seeing over the next few weeks were, indeed, part of the maneuvers already described, in which case the Soviets would beable to take aggressive military action without alerting our indications mechanism. On the other hand, at some critical juncture, us that the Soviets were now ready to strike unless we made significant concessions, even though, in fact, the entire Soviet effort was bluff.

1.3(a)(4)

2. Mr. Helms agreed that such questions would probably arise, but that we should take the position that the consumers themselves would have to make up their minds as to the answer. He said all we could vouch for was that, from strictly an operational standpoint, we had been unable to fault and could see nothing in the operational and CE aspects of the case which would cause us to question the validity of the information being supplied.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

3 1 MAR 1992

JOHN 7 MAURY Chief, SR Division

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